

Poor women, like all women, have a right to decide whether or not to terminate a pregnancy—certainly in the case of rape or incest.

Let's not turn the clock backward. Support the Lowey amendment.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND
EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank Mr. ISTOOK and Mr. MCINTOSH for the cooperation and assistance they have given the Veterans' Affairs Committee on the portion of the bill which would prohibit the use of Federal grants for political advocacy.

Veterans service organizations have raised concerns about this part of H.R. 2127.

They believe it could be interpreted to apply to space and office facilities which the Department of Veterans Affairs [VA] is authorized by law in title 38 to furnish to veterans groups.

These groups use the VA space and office facilities to provide individual veterans free representation on their disability compensation claims.

This is an important public service having nothing to do with political advocacy or Federal grants.

I have worked closely with Mr. ISTOOK and Mr. MCINTOSH to assure the veterans service organizations that there is absolutely no intent to include space and office facilities authorized under title 38.

Mr. ISTOOK and Mr. MCINTOSH have further assured the veterans service organizations and me that they will either amend the bill or work in conference for more specific language.

Then there will be no question whatsoever that veterans can continue to receive free assistance from veterans service organizations on claims related to their military service.

The bill also has an express exclusion covering the Pro Bono Representation Program of the Court of Veterans Appeals.

This program enables individual veterans to obtain legal representation on their claims which have been appealed to that court.

This program does involve a small amount of Federal grant money, but is not funding political advocacy, and the bill exclusion was drafted accordingly.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Chairman, this Member rises today in support of the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. Unfortunately, H.R. 2127 eliminates funding for this office.

Rural areas have vastly different health care needs than other parts of the country. The Office of Rural Health Policy provides many forms of assistance to rural communities and health care providers. For example, it directly assists rural communities through the provision of telemedicine grants and rural outreach grants. The telemedicine grants administered by the Office of Rural Health Policy make it possible for rural providers to initiate telemedicine systems now rather than wait for urban-based systems to eventually extend such services later. It also administers the important rural health outreach grant program. These grants are perhaps the most effective of any rural health grants because they require organizations within rural areas to work together to improve and strengthen the provision of health care.

The Office of Rural Health Policy also produces important annual reports through the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health. The most recent report focused on the impact of Medicare reimbursement policies on rural health providers.

Finally, the Office of Rural Health Policy supports research centers that address rural health policy problems. This research assists rural providers and policy makers on a local, State and Federal level in determining the best course of action to take to ensure that rural communities have adequate health care available.

Mr. Chairman, the Office of Rural Health Policy is not an unnecessary bureaucracy, but an important organization that works to improve available health care in rural areas. This Member urges his colleagues to support the continuation of this office in conference.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. LAMAR S. SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Chairman, as a member of the Budget Committee that produced the first balanced budget in 25 years, I rise in strong support of the Labor/HHS appropriations bill. This bill provides Federal support for such important activities as biomedical research, Head Start, and special and higher education.

In other areas, this appropriations bill returns power, money, and control where it belongs: to our families for decisions around the kitchen table, to our neighborhoods, and to our State and local governments. Rather than education Presidents, this bill creates education classrooms and empowers education parents across America.

Some of the same people who opposed our balanced budget and have opposed every attempt to control the Federal deficit have resorted to demagoguery to attack this appropriations bill. With no positive plan of their own, they try to scare students and the parents of students about education spending.

Don't believe these purveyors of doubt, doom, and deficits. The question is not whether or how much we'll spend on education. The difference between our balanced budget that this appropriations bill is an essential part of, and the Clinton bogus budget, is who will do the spending.

The Clinton bogus budget assumes that Government knows what's best for your children. It provides for a big bureaucratic Department of Education and tells parents what your children should learn.

The American people know better. And this Congress was elected to be different. Support our education parents. Return power to our families and local communities. Vote in favor of the Labor/HHS appropriations bill, an essential building block of our balanced budget.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIZABETH FURSE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 2, 1995

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2127) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1996, and for other purposes:

Ms. FURSE. Mr. Chairman it is cruel and callous to restrict Medicaid funding of abortions for rape and incest victims. When the Medicaid statute was written, Congress made clear its intention that it should cover all medically necessary services. I can hardly imagine a service more necessary than an abortion for a rape or incest survivor.

Rape is a crime—punished the victims of the crime.